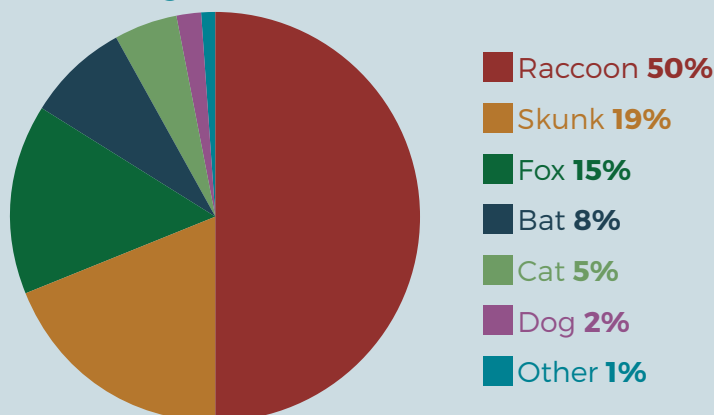


# Rabies in South Carolina



## Rabid Animals

### Percentages of Rabid Animals, 2010 - 2015



**Every year, about 124 animals test positive for rabies in South Carolina.**

- Approximately 30% of these cases involve human exposure!

## Rabies Prevention



**Any mammal can get rabies! Rabies is usually transmitted through a bite from an infected animal.**



Don't keep wild animals as pets. If you see an animal in need, contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator in your area. Do not approach the animal.



Never touch wild or stray animals with your bare hands. Educate children on why they should not handle wild or unknown animals.



Vaccinate pets against rabies. By law, all dogs, cats and ferrets should be vaccinated. Keep shots up to date, whether annually or as directed by a veterinarian.



Watch for abnormal behavior. Avoid wild animals acting tame, and tame animals acting wild.

## Dealing with Exposure

### If Exposure Occurs:

1. Immediately wash bite/wound with soap and water.
2. Contact a health care provider, even for minor incidents.
3. Notify your local Bureau of Environmental Health Services office.



### Did you know?

In SC the average cost of post-exposure treatment is \$10,000.

### Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP):

Hundreds of South Carolinians must undergo preventive treatment for rabies every year, due to exposure to a rabid or suspected rabid animal.